

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 071315

46

ORIGIN CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ADP-00 USIA-12 /022 R

DRAFTED BY CU/ AF: EMSOUTHWICK: DRG

4/16/73 EXT. 28068

APPROVED BY CU/ AF: OWROBERTS

AF/ N: RSMITH (SUBSTANCE)

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

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R 171519 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

UNCLAS STATE 071315

E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: SCUL, OEXC

SUBJECT: EDX: VISIT OF OCA TENNIS COACHES

REF: KHARTOUM 531

1. CU/ AF WOULD APPRECIATE POST' S REACTION TO OPERATION CROSSROADS AFRICA PROPOSAL TO SEND FORMER WIMBLEDON CHAMPION ALTHEA GIBSON TO SUDAN FOR TWO WEEK COACHING ASSIGNMENT BEGINNING MAY 18 UNDER CU GRANT. GIBSON, 45, HAD SPECTACULAR CAREER AS TENNIS AMATEUR. SHE TURNED PRO IN 1960 AND RETIRED AS UNDEFEATED U. S. WOMEN' S CHAMPION IN 1965. SHE IS NOW ACTIVE IN PRO GOLF BUT STILL PLAYS TENNIS OFTEN. PHYSICAL CONDITION EXCELLENT.

2. GIBSON VISIT WOULD PRECLUDE POSSIBILITY OF VISIT BY OTHER OCA COACHES, BUT HER PRESENCE AND EXPERTISE MIGHT OUTWEIGH DISADVANTAGE OF RELATIVELY SHORT PERIOD HER AVAILABILITY. FYI: GIBSON WOULD PLAN TRAVEL TO WIMBLEDON PRIVATELY AFTER SUDAN ASSIGNMENT TO ATTEND 1973 TOURNAMENT. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE071315
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EMSOUTHWICK: DRG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730447/aaaaitbs.tel
Line Count: 56
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 KHARTOUM 531
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: thigpegh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05-Dec-2001 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <15 FEB 2002 by thigpegh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980126
Subject: EDX: VISIT OF OCA TENNIS COACHES
TAGS: OEXC, SCUL
To: KHARTOUM
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005